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Remarks

Please cancel claims 11, 12, 15 and 16.

Claims 17-18 have been added. Claims 1, 2, 3, and 4.

The pending claims are 1-8, 13-14 and 17-18.

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the useful comments on the elected group. The current claims have been amended to correspond to the scope of the elected claims. In particular, Claim 1 has been amended to delete recitation of heteroaryls and to direct the claim to compounds having pyrrolidinocarbonyl or piperidinocarbonyl optionally substituted with C₁₋₃ alkyl groups at R₁. Claim 4 has also been amended to delete compounds (e) and (f) which fall outside the scope of the elected claims.

Applicant also wishes to thank the Examiner for conducting the telephone interview on July 8th, 2004. During the interview the §112 rejections of applicants response after final (submitted June 11, 2004 but not entered) were discussed particularly the scope of claims 4 and 17 and the Examiners concern about indefiniteness of the claims language relating to the in vivo conversion of carboxy, amino and imino group. The Examiner suggested that if the claims were presented in a different format that they might be allowable. The applicant has taken the Examiner comments into consideration and submits the present response. Applicant reserves the right to prosecute the subject matter in divisional and/or continuation applications. The present claims listing reflects the changes to the claims relative to applicants response submitted December 19th, 2003.

In order to address Examiners §112 rejections Claim 1 has been amended to recite specific compounds wherein the amino and imino group of the Ar and R₅ substituents are defined by the recited markush group. These recited groups are fully supported in the specification at page 8, line 6 – page 9, line 4. Therefore, it is believed that these groups are clearly defined and enabled.

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Claim 17 recites compounds wherein the carboxy groups of R_4 are selected from the recited markush group. Support can be found in the specification at page 7, lines 2-27. Therefore, these groups are clearly defined and enabled.

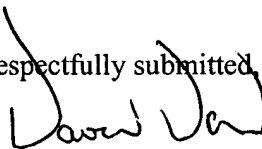
Claim 18 recites compounds wherein the carboxy groups of R_4 are selected from the recited markush group. Support can be found in the specification at page 7, line 29 – page 8, line 5. Therefore, these groups are clearly defined and enabled in the specification.

Applicants submit that Claims 17 and 18 does not lead to a further consideration by the Examiner, since a more generic form of the claims has already been considered by the Examiner and this issue was already considered in the first Office Action. The present claims merely recite the specific groups for substituents in which the Examiner rejected for infiniteness.

It is not believed that any fees are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in accompanying documents including applicant's request for a two month Extension of Time. However, if additional fees are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then any fees required therefore are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 02-2955.

Applicants respectfully submit that all of the subject claims are in the condition for allowance. If the Examiner feels that a telephone interview would be helpful in advancing prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the attorney below.

Respectfully submitted,



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